

ATTACHMENT - REMARKS

By this Amendment, independent claim 1 (and withdrawn independent claim 10) has been amended to better define the invention and to better differentiate over the cited prior art (and so that both claims include a common inventive feature). Other dependent claims have also been added or amended consistent with the changes to independent claim 1 (or 10) and/or amended for clarity. New claim 13 (and withdrawn 12) has also been added, claiming subject matter similar to canceled claim 8 (and previously present in independent claim 1). It is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance for the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 has now been amended to particularly recite that the supporting step includes the step of arranging various nozzles at a distance from the glass sheet whereby the directed air flow results from each nozzle producing a glass sheet supporting air jet, after the termination of the support by the rotating rollers has occurred.

It is submitted that the method disclosed in amended independent claim 1 (and the apparatus of independent claim 10) is neither disclosed nor made obvious by the Hoetzel '483 patent or any of the other cited prior art taken singly or in combination, so that independent claim 1 (and 10) is allowable. For these same reasons, it is also submitted that dependent claims 3, 5-7, 9 and 13 depending from independent claim 1 (and withdrawn dependent claims 11-12 depending from independent claim 10) are likewise allowable.

It is also submitted that the specific features of the dependent claims are also not shown or made obvious by the cited references. In particular, no nozzle system as

claimed in claim 3 is shown, nor is the gradual change of support as claimed in claim 6 shown. Therefore, these claims are additionally allowable for this reason.

Further and favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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